

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTS RURAL HOSPITAL WITH QUALITY HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Outline of Need: Superior, Nebraska is home to Brodstone Memorial Hospital, a two-story brick/steel structure built in 1927 with additions in 1967 and 1994. The hospital, located in an area designated as being medically underserved with a shortage of medical professionals, needed improvements in order to attract medical staff and to provide needed medical services to residents who otherwise would have to travel a considerable distance for their medical care. The improvements would benefit the approximately 24,000 rural residents of Nuckolls, Webster, Thayer and Clay counties in South Central Nebraska and Jewel and Republic counties in North Central Kansas.

“Continuing to provide quality, accessible and affordable health care is a high priority at Brodstone Memorial Hospital. The hospital’s board of directors place great value on the stability and longevity of quality health care at Brodstone which is the reason they approved the hospital’s expansion/renovation. They should be congratulated for their vision and commitment to providing the latest technology and facilities to insure the best care for those the hospital serves.” ---

*John Keelan, CEO
Brodstone Memorial Hospital*

How Rural Development Helped: Rural Development assisted with a direct community facility loan of \$4,277,000 for the expansion/renovation project to be repaid over 40 years at 4.25 percent interest. Central National Bank in Superior originated \$500,000 in loan monies with

“Brodstone’s expansion/ renovation project reflects a strong community spirit that helps this medically under-served area. It is a great feeling to help a rural area to grow and make improvements.”---

*Glen Gatz, Community Programs Specialist
USDA Rural Development*

USDA Rural Development guaranteeing the funds. Brodstone Memorial Hospital completed the financing with a contribution of \$850,000.

“The hospital expansion project is a major improvement to our community. The state of the art medical facility and staff will bring many benefits to our rural area. As always we continue to support Superior and the surrounding area and are definitely excited about the future of our local hospital.” ---

*Richard Nelson, President
Central National Bank*

The Results: The nearly \$6 million newly expanded and renovated Brodstone Memorial Hospital offers improved health care services and assists in the recruitment of health care professionals.

Three full-time family practitioners, two physician assistants, and a nurse practitioner along with numerous visiting medical specialists currently staff the hospital. An additional family practitioner joined the staff in early 2006. The medical staff at Brodstone Memorial Hospital numbers seven, an all time high for Nuckolls County.

Due to the hospital improvements, Brodstone better meets the privacy and compliance issues required for Medicare conditions of participation, the Health Information Portability and Privacy Act (HIPAA), corporate compliance, and health care regulations.

The near 17,000 square foot addition enhanced the hospital's ability to keep pace with the ever changing health care industry. First floor features include an enclosed drive through and covered parking area, physical therapy, cardiac rehabilitation spaces, public restrooms, main entry lobby, gift shop, hospital administration offices, two conference rooms, along with ultrasound and mammography testing areas. The second floor houses a surgery suite with two operating rooms, men and women locker rooms for surgeons, endoscopy, a surgery prep area, and recovery room. A new driveway and patient drop-off area is positioned south of the buildings' main entry.

The approximately 17,000 square feet of remodeled area provides the first floor with an expanded dining room, new radiology offices, four clinic exam rooms, new pathology lab, and new elevator. The second floor features a central sterile suite and holding area, nurses' lounge and locker room, central nurses' station, offices, and a family waiting area. Sixteen patient rooms now offer private bathrooms, four of which accommodate disabled patients and twelve for patients in general. New headwall units were installed in sixteen patient rooms. Heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems were upgraded. Upgrades also included a new electrical transformer and generator.

October 2005